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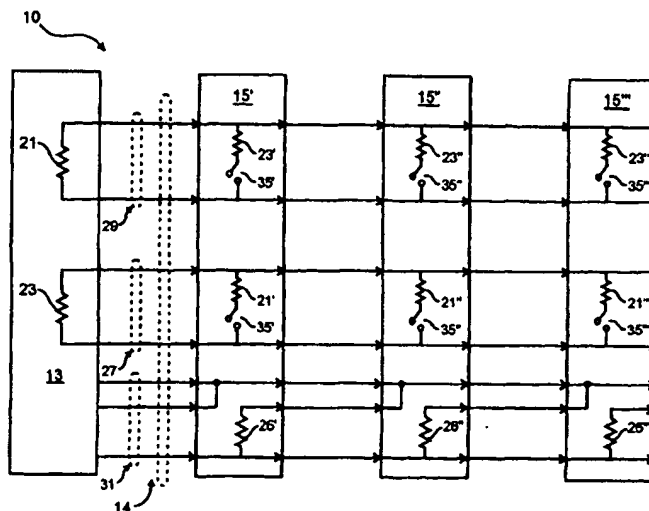
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- (72) Inventor: BREINLINGER, Richard, H.; 51 Wash Pond Road, Hampstead, NH 03841 (US).
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A NETWORK BUS TOPOLOGY



(57) Abstract: A method and a system is provided for facilitating communication throughout a master/slave network. The network topology includes a transmission cable being operably connected between the network modules. A master module includes a master terminating resistor operably connected to the transmission cable. A slave module includes a slave terminating resistor and a slave switch. The slave terminating resistor is operably connected to the slave switch. A load resistor is operably connected to the transmission cable. The slave switch is operably responsive to the load resistor to generate a terminate enable. The slave switch inserts the slave terminating resistor onto the transmission cable in response to the terminate enable.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US 02/25257

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 H04L12/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)  
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 94 08305 A (COMPAQ COMPUTER CORP) 14 Apr 11 1994 (1994-04-14) page 4, line 15 - page 5, line 30	1, 2, 5-7, 13
Y	—	3, 4, 8-12, 14-17
Y	US 4 674 085 A (ARANGUREN WILLIAM L ET AL) 16 June 1987 (1987-06-16)  column 7, line 25 - line 68	3, 4, 8-12, 14-17
A	WO 98 30961 A (N O B ELEKTRONIK AB ;BJOERN FREDRIK (SE); NILSSON GOERAN (SE); BER) 16 July 1998 (1998-07-16) page 6, line 11 - line 17; figure 2  — -/-	1-17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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International Application No.

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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Information on patent family members

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